1641
COMIC SHOP NEWS
ARMY OF DARKNESS • BUBBA HO-TEP

Dynamite's Double-Bruce Special

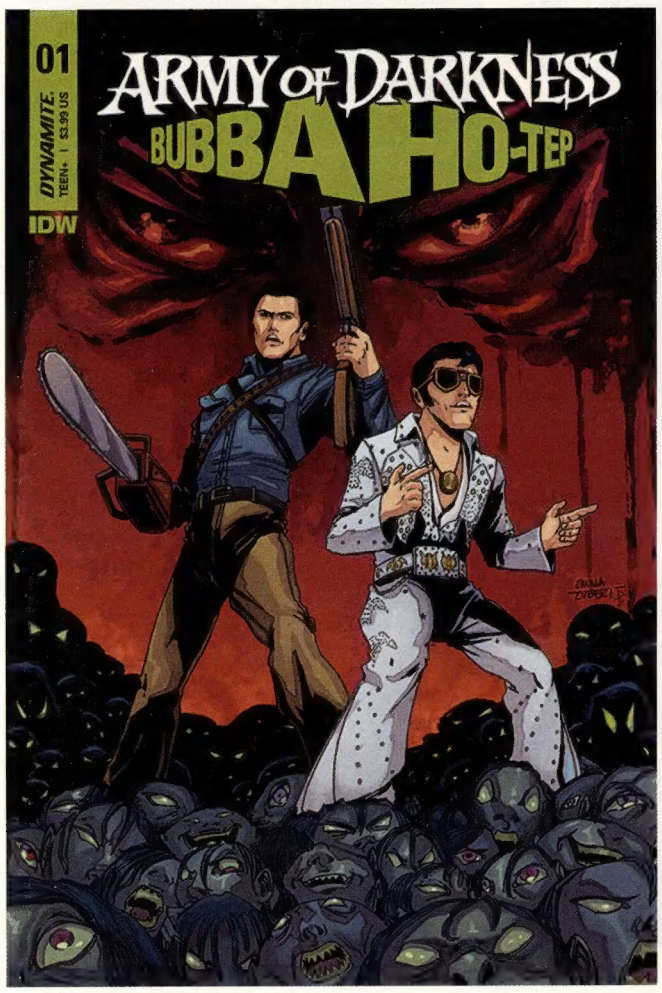
Bruce Campbell fans (and who *isn't)* already have Dynamite Entertainment's ***Army of Darkness*** books to feed their Bruce hunger—but they're going to get a double dose of Bruce in February in the pages of ***Army of Darkness/Bubba Ho-Tep***, a crossover series from Dymamite (in conjunction with IDW) that brings together the twisted realities of two different *Bruce Campbell* films in one offbeat story.

The series follows Ash on a soul-searching road trip to Texas; turns out that he has a hunch that Elvis Presley may still be alive and kicking (and supposedly vanquishing mummies!). What follows is a series of universe-spanning events that involve an Elvis jumpsuit with special time-travel abilities, a trip to '70s Vegas, and the reveal of an evil new Book of the Dead, the ***Necronomicon Ho-Tep***.

"Being a huge fan of the character of Ash—and by extension, actor *Bruce Campbell*—I was instantly drawn to the movie ***Bubba Ho-Tep***, based on an original story by the great *Joe R. Lansdale*, and starring Campbell as Elvis," series writer *Scott Duvall* said. "Immediately upon release, I added it to my DVD collection, and I would group it with ***Army of Darkness*** because it felt like a companion piece to it. After viewing them in close succession, I knew the Ash and Elvis team-up would go together like peanut butter and banana. These two worlds already fit so well together in tone, it made it totally plausible that they could co-exist on the same plane. Wanting to see what it would be like if Ash and Elvis interact is a big part of what sparked this, and so I'm thrilled we'll get to finally see that in these pages.

"Bubba Ho-Tep is back! Elvis thought he was rid of the cowboy-boots-wearing mummy, but there's another force at play—an evil force that has intertwined with Bubba. Enter Ash! Basically, it's both Elvis and Ash's archenemies combining forces, so they can't do this alone.

"Ash's quest brings him to a small town in east Texas, the last known whereabouts of the 'real Elvis.' You see, Ash isn't getting any younger, and in fact, he's getting closer in age to when Elvis supposedly exited this mortal plane. Not wanting to check out early himself, Ash goes off in search of this man to see if he is the real deal and if he can offer some advice to someone in need of direction. When he reaches his destination, he finds Elvis, but it's not quite what he's expecting…"



Duvall is dealing with two characters portrayed on the screen by the same actor: Do these guys see any similarities when they finally meet? "Ash and Elvis are too busy worrying about their differences to notice any commonalities at first," Duvall said. "I can promise, though, that by the end of the first issue, an alliance will begin to take shape, and at some point in the series, there will be a subtle nod to Campbell fans to acknowledge this fun connective tissue between the characters."

Is *Joe R. Lansdale* involved in any way as a story consultant for the series? "Joe has been very supportive of the whole thing," Duvall said. "He reads and approves each script as it comes in, and offers a suggestion or two, which I'm always happy to hear. The fact that he reads it and likes it means a lot. It's been great having him involved!"

"Script and art for the first issue of ***Army of Darkness/Bubba Ho-Tep*** are as delicious as a fried peanut-butter-and-'nanner sandwich," Lansdale added. "I'm as excited as if I had good sense and owned Ft Knox. Can't wait!"

As to how the crossover came about, Dynamite Senior Editor *Joseph Rybandt* explained that "*Scott Duvall* actually approached me about putting this together and had a relationship with IDW. I told him we were game if IDW was game—and *everyone* was game! From there we had to do all the boring stuff like paperwork between the parties, but after that is was all fried peanut-butter-and-banana sandwiches!" (Are we detecting an Elvisian sandwich theme here?)

"This crossover is definitely a no-brainer, especially with Ash involved. Seriously though, when this idea was discussed with our friends at IDW, we all agreed that this crossover would be one of the grooviest crossovers that we could do together," Dynamite Publisher/CEO *Nick Barrucci* said. "And we've brought together a great story. Scott really brought a fun concept to the table pitting these two 'Kings' against each other. As ***Army of Darkness*** was the first license we signed at Dynamite, we're excited to have this new series as part of our publishing line. This is a cult classic comic in the making, and fans of both franchises are going to love where this story goes."

There's obviously more than a little humor in both series; how careful does Duvall have to be to ensure that the humor and the horror balance just so in the storyline? "I love each of these worlds for that exact reason: They are able to hit the perfect tone satisfying both horror and comedy fans," Duvall explained. "It's partly why they work so well together. The humor can often come from a dark place or help to punctuate a horrific moment with a funny line of dialogue, often delivered by Ash or Elvis.

"That's where most of the humor comes from in this story: trying to inject as many jokes into a scene as possible through dialogue, but never at the expense of the horror, where it becomes a buddy comedy with low stakes. There's enough death happening around these characters that we never lose the horror element entirely, which wouldn't be faithful to the source material. The way I try to play it is, even if two characters are sharing a laugh, we should always feel like evil is lurking just around the corner, ready to pounce at a moment's notice."

The recent Showtime ***Ash vs Evil Dead*** series pushed the absurdity of Ash's situation to an extreme; will that be toned down a bit in the comic series? And will this deal with a younger Ash, rather than the older, past-his-prime Ash that we saw in the recent TV series? "You're right, I was pretty shocked sometimes at how far the TV series would take things! At times, I was grossed out, but always with a grin on my face," Duvall said. "I'm not sure we'll live up to the Showtime series' gross-out factor, as much of the story is Ash stepping into Elvis' world, so some of it feels a little more grounded. Which is an odd statement, considering how absurdly weird the Bubba Ho-Tep story is at times.

"As far as what point in Ash's life we're examining, he's not yet past his prime, so it's not that particular Ash. In our story, Ash is feeling his years and starting to re-examine his life a little and how long he can continue pushing himself this hard. While Ash never really thought a lot about the future up until now, the idea that Elvis could still be alive and kicking gives him the shot in the arm he needs to go on a soul-searching journey. However, it's Ash—so where he goes, trouble is never far behind."

Army of Darkness/Bubba Ho-Tep #1, the first issue of a limited series by *Scott Duvall & Vincenzo Federici*, is scheduled for February 13th release. The book will be offered with standard covers by *Tom Mandrake, Carlos Gomez, Robert Hack, Diego Galindo,* and *Emma Kubert;* in addition, Dynamite will offer a 1-for-10 Gomez black-and-white incentive, a 1-for-20 Kubert black-and-white incentive, a 1-for-30 Galindo black-and-white incentive, a 1-for-40 Mandrake black-and-white incentive, and a 1-for-50 Hack virgin art incentive, as well as a Blank Authentix Edition, an Atlas Edition signed by cover artist *Robert Hack,* and an ultra-limited *Tom Mandrake* virgin cover edition.

by Cliff Biggers

Courtesy of your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

Produced by *Comic Shop News* in cooperation with *newsarama.com*

All the Myriad Ways

Vault Comics is preparing its new young-adult and middle-grade imprint, Myriad, for 2019 release—and now we know some of the first comics that will appear under the new imprint.

Wrassle Castle, a middle-grade book written by *Paul Tobin & Colleen Coover* (with artist to be announced later), focuses on Lydia Riverthane, who has always wanted to join Wrassle Castle—but due to her parents' disapproval, she has been forced to train secretly in the forest. Her three best friends Chelsea, Deandra, and Lyle—aka the Underground Alibi Society—help her by providing cover stories when needed. Lydia also secretly trains with her brother, John Gator-Chomp, a high-ranking wrasslin instructor. Lydia idolizes her brother—until he's arrested for stealing one of the Legendary Wrasslin Folios! A crime he *did* commit! But... why? Lydia believes the only way she can learn the truth and, more important, save her brother is to enter and win the Grand Wrasslin Tournament.

Bonding, a young adult title by *Matthew Erman & Emily Pearson,* is the touching story of a man, a woman, and their alien parasites. Marcus has been alone since the loss of his closest friend and has just recently entered the dating scene, while Laura has drifted in and out of relationships since high school. They meet and strike up a good rapport, learning about each other and friendship—and how to deal with the slug-like parasites that have infected humanity. ***Bonding*** is a funny, quirky, and honest look at love, in a world where people wear their anxieties not on their sleeves but on their chests like big ol' leeches.

Unfinished Corner, by *Dani Coleman* (artist to be announced in the near future), is a young adult metaphysical horror tale. According to Jewish mythology, when God created the universe, He left a tiny corner of it unfinished. Opinion is divided on why—but everyone agrees that the Unfinished Corner is a dangerous place full of monsters. Twelve-year-old Miriam neither knows nor cares about the Unfinished Corner. She's too busy preparing for her Bat Mitzvah, wrestling with whether she even wants to be Jewish—until an angel appears, whisking her and her best friends Avi and David off to this crazy and monstrous land with a single mission: finish the Unfinished Corner.

Look for more info on specific release dates and full creator lineups in an upcoming issue of ***CSN.***

CSNsider

•Cave Pictures, a new imprint headed by *Mark Rodgers,* is launching in early 2019 with two titles. The first, ***Appalachian Apocalypse*** by *Billy Tucci & Ethan Nicolle,* follows country boy JB and his estranged wife Anne as they confront a horde of zombies raised by the staff of Lilith; look for it in January. The second title, ***The Light Princess*** by *Meredith Finch, Renae De Liz, & Ray Dillon,* introduces a princess who must deal with her weightlessness; look for it in February. ***The Blessed Machine,*** by *Jesse Hamm & Mark Rodgers,* pits a courageous group of rebels against the machine charged with preserving their way of life in an underground city; look for it in March. ***The No Ones,*** by *Jim Krueger & Well-Bee,* forces a group of superheroes to reassess their lives after they are erased from history; look for it in April. And ***Wylde,*** by *Daniel Bradford,* is a supernatural Western about a masked lawman battling the undead; look for it in May.

•Dark Horse has sold "a large chunk" of Dark Horse Entertainment to Vanguard Visionary Assets, a Chinese intellectual property investor. Vanguard Visionary Assets' *Stanley Cheung* will join the Dark Horse Entertainment board, but *Mike Richardson* will retain his role as Dark Horse CEO. "This new arrangement will allow us to accelerate our growth and extend our reach worldwide," Richardson said. "It will also present new opportunities for our employees as well as the talented content creators we work with."

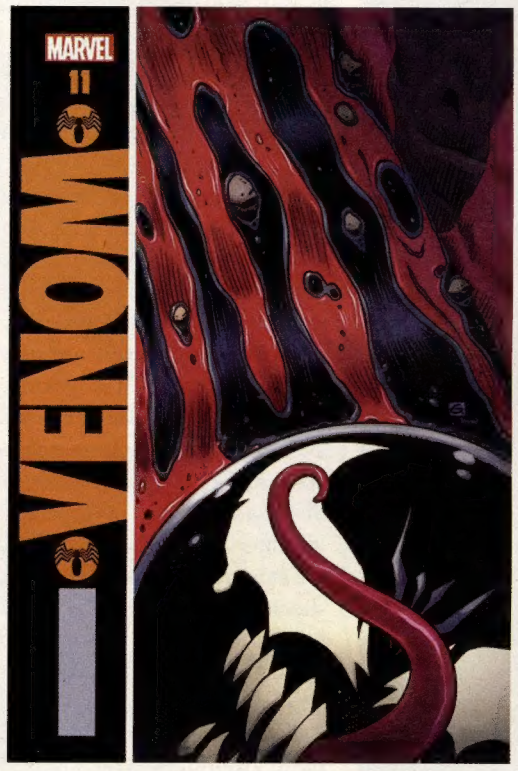
•*Hope Nicholson,* editor of the acclaimed ***Secret Loves of Geek Girls,*** presents a look inside the world of comic conventions as seen through the eyes of professional writers and artists in ***Pros and (Comic) Cons,*** an original trade paperback anthology that will include comics material and essays by such well-known pros as *Brian Bendis, Greg Pak, Jen St Onge, Tim Seeley, Kieron Gillen, Sina Grace,* and *Amy Chu,* among others. The book will offer intriguing anecdotes, tales of fan and pro encounters, and advice for con-goers. Dark Horse has scheduled the book for late May release.

•DC has cancelled orders for ***Scalped Book Four TP*** and has no plans to resolicit. This means that the repackaging of the Vertigo series will remain incomplete, which is disappointing news for collectors hoping to add the entire set to their bookshelves.

•DC has also cancelled the ***DC Artist Alley Joe Ledbetter Vinyl Figure Black & White Variants,*** although the standard color editions of the figures will be produced.

•And Harley fans will be sad to know that DC has cancelled the ***Harley Quinn Red, White, & Black Harley Quinn by Guillem March Statue.***

•*Dave Gibbons* will supply a very ***Watchmen***-esque variant cover for ***Venom #11,*** inspired no doubt by a joking "Venom vs Watchmen" debate between ***Venom*** writer *Donny Cates* and ***Watchmen*** writer (and comics legend) *Alan Moore*—a debate that has apparently been settled by mutual agreement between the two writers.



Coming Comics—DC in February

The superstar creative team of *Brian Michael Bendis & Steve Epting* digs into the DC Universe in ***Action Comics #1008,*** kicking off a sweeping espionage epic that's shattering the agencies—and heroes—dedicated to protecting the world! As the DEO falls, only Jimmy Olsen may hold the answers to helping Superman and Lois Lane uncover who's behind the attacks rocking the DC Universe's biggest clandestine organizations. And when the Suicide Squad's Amanda Waller makes a shocking discovery, can she help the trio understand the truth before the balance of power shifts to Leviathan forever?

Locked in an intergalactic juvenile detention facility, Superboy and Robin meet the youngest—and meanest—Green Lantern ever in ***Adventures of the Super Sons #7*** (by

COMIC SHOP NEWS
Published weekly since 1987 by Comic Shop News, Inc.
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EDITORS
Cliff Biggers
Ward Batty

Editorial Office
2770 Carillon Crossing
Marietta, GA 30066
cliffbig@comicshopnews.com

Business Office
3717 Evans Dale Dr.
Atlanta, GA 30340
wbatty@csnsider.com

www.csnsider.com
twitter.com/csnsider

Printed by Transcontinental Interglobe, Beauceville, QC, Canada

Peter Tomasi, Carlo Barberi, & Matt Santorelli). Well, sort of a GL. Mostly a GL... Really more of a trainee, but don't tell the bad guys, okay? Plus, Joker Jr returns... the clown who may be the boys' last, best hope to stop the Gang!

Wynn Morgan isn't just a wealthy Los Angeles industrialist, he's the unofficial king of a vast white nationalist movement and the prime suspect in the murder of an FBI agent. But a dead fed may prove to be the least of Morgan's problems when dissension in the ranks signals what could be the start of a secret civil war in ***American Carnage #4*** (by *Bryan Hill & Leandro Fernandez*), with white-passing undercover agent Richard Wright caught right in the middle.

Witness the epic origin of Aquaman's most dangerous foe yet—the nefarious Namma—in ***Aquaman #45*** (by *Kelly Sue DeConnick, Robson Rocha, & Daniel Henriques).* Meanwhile, Aquaman, still trying to piece together his strange vision of a mysterious red-headed woman, agrees to accompany Caille across dangerous waters to meet her long-lost mother in exchange for recovering his lost memories. But as the two allies (or maybe more?) approach Namma's island, strange events begin to occur that reveal a shocking truth about Caille herself!

The people's-choice congressional candidate Luciana Alejo is all set to give a televised interview that could secure her victory, but the Cormorant is ready to silence her for good in ***Batgirl #32*** (by *Mairghread Scott, Paul Pelletier, & Norm Rapmund).* Can Batgirl protect the candidate without making her alter ego, Barbara Gordon, lose her campaign job in the process?

As chief architect of the Sanctuary program that cost so much for so many, especially Wally West, Batman is about to be held accountable by the Flash in ***Batman #64*** (by *Joshua Williamson & Guillem March).* A cold case from the Justice League's past has mysteriously reopened, and Batman and the Flash—the only two heroes who stand a chance of cracking the case—are at each other's throats! Our heroes must combat a demon from the past while burying their own inner demons in the process... and neither the World's Greatest Detective nor the Fastest Man Alive will ever be the same again! But who is really pulling the strings here? And how does Gotham Girl fit into all this? The story continues in ***The Flash #64*** (by *Joshua Williamson, Rafa Sandoval, & Jordi Tarragona),* ***Batman #65,*** and ***The Flash #65.***

The Joker is prepared to deliver his fatal punchline as everything—and the kitchen sink, too—hits the fan for Batman and Robin in ***Batman Beyond #29*** (by *Dan Jurgens, Brett Booth, & Norm Rapmund).* Even with Dick Grayson's help, the Dynamic Duo of tomorrow and Bruce Wayne may not stand a chance.

In their first encounter with the powerful maniac who's pursuing runaway metahuman Sofia Barrera, Black Lightning and the Outsiders were absolutely humbled. Does everyone on this team have what it takes? Or did Batman make a catastrophic mistake when he entrusted them with Sofia's life? Find out in ***Batman and the Outsiders #3*** (by *Bryan Hill & Dexter Soy).*

All the pieces are starting to fit together as the Batman Who Laughs acquires another key element in his plan—one that is linked to the founding fathers of Gotham City and to a legacy started by the Wayne family and protected by none other than Oswald Cobblepot. While the Penguin goes head to head with the darkest version of his mortal enemy, Batman is forced to compromise his principles and purge the serum that protects his heart from the deadly Joker Toxin in ***The Batman Who Laughs #3*** (by *Scott Snyder & Jock).*

Pursued by nightmares he can't remember and haunted by his inability to sleep, Timothy Hunter heads to the one place he knows he'll definitely find answers: the Dreaming. But the cost of such knowledge may be more than he bargained for in ***The Books of Magic #5*** (by *Kat Howard & Tom Fowler).*

His true father and special destiny revealed at last, Frank squares off in a final supernatural showdown against school-bully-turned-agent-of-death Blake in a battle for control of the border between worlds in ***Border Town #6*** (by *Eric M. Esquivel & Ramon Villalobos).*

What is it that they say about house-guests and bad fish? How they both start to stink after a couple of days? Well, Oswald Cobblepot has been hanging around Catwoman's new city, and Selina Kyle has been holding her nose for far too long. It's time to send the Penguin packing in ***Catwoman #8*** (by *Joëlle Jones & Elena Casagrande).*

It's an industry dinner in New York City, and comic book creator Max finds himself juggling his responsibilities as a spy for the United States government and his role as a member of the creative community in ***Cover #6*** (by *Brian Bendis & David Mack),* the finale of the first story arc.

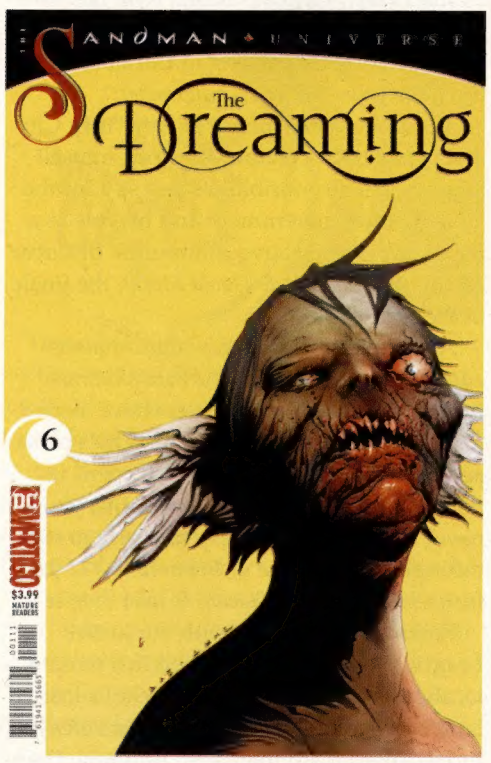
After unleashing his raw dark-matter energy and melting Doctor Fate's helmet, Brimstone's newfound powers have alerted forces much darker than the ones he's come across so far. As the home office opens its doors to finally enter into our reality, you'll never believe the first fiery presence to step through in ***The Curse of Brimstone #11*** (by *Justin Jordan, Denys Cowan, & John Stanisci).*

Following his run-in with the Justice League, Damage was dropped in a remote location in the middle of the ocean, a lost land of some of the most dangerous creatures to ever roam the Earth. And now Damage is one of them—but only for an hour a day—in ***Damage #14*** (by *Matt Ryan & Aaron Lopresti).* The rest of the time, Ethan Avery is an ordinary man, and he is going to have to survive by his wits if he ever wants to get back to the mainland alive.

Deathstroke's son Jericho breaks into Arkham Asylum in an effort to free him in ***Deathstroke #40*** (by *Christopher Priest, Fernando Pasarin, & Jason Paz),* but Slade Wilson is caught up in his own conflict with the return of Dev—aka "Death Masque"—and the realization that his hallucinatory trip into outer space may have been more real than previously advertised!

Batman's tried everything on Earth to stop the menace hunting his friends and family—so in ***Detective Comics #998*** (by *Peter Tomasi, Doug Mahnke, & Jaime Mendoza),* it's time to turn to things *not* of this Earth! In the past, whenever Batman's encountered the supernatural, he's turned to Jason Blood

for guidance—and to Etrigan, the demonic entity living inside him! But securing their help is never simple, and what Blood has to show him will shake Batman to his core!



Finally determined to solve the riddle of herself, Dora is out for blood in ***The Dreaming #6*** (by *Simon Spurrier & Bilquis Evely)*. But Judge Gallows, the usurper, has taken precautions to protect himself. As the whole of the Dreaming trembles with the sick new power he wields, the oldest brotherly feud in existence takes a wretched turn.

All their lives the Female Furies have been raised to be the meanest, most cunning and most ruthless fighting force on all of Apokolips. So why are Granny Goodness's girls left behind every time the men go to war? With the might of New Genesis hanging over the planet and the Forever People making mincemeat out of Darkseid's army, Granny thinks it's about time that changed in ***Female Furies #1*** (by *Cecil Castellucci & Adriana Melo)*. Follow Big Barda, Aurelie, Mad Harriet, Lashina, Bernadeth, and Stompa as they set out to beat the boys at their own game. Little do they know the game is rigged—and one accidental murder could spell disaster for them all!

The Freedom Fighters launch their biggest offensive ever against the Nazi regime in ***Freedom Fighters #3*** (by *Robert Venditti & Eddy Barrows)*... but the bad guys aren't done for yet. The Hitler dynasty has made its move against the insurgency, in the form of its secret weapon: Hitler the Third. And boy, is this kid a deranged little psycho!

In ***Goddess Mode #3*** (by *Zoe Quinn & Robbi Rodriguez)*, Cassandra Price joins a group of magically powered women in the secret war against the mysterious digital daemons preying on humanity through the AI to which all mankind is connected.

Trapped inside Count Vertigo's psychotic maze, Green Arrow, Black Canary, and Indigo Riot have no escape—and no way to appease the villain's impossible demands in ***Green Arrow #49*** (by *Collin Kelly, Jackson Lanzing, & Javier Fernandez)*. The key may come from Oliver Queen's past—but can Green Arrow face his own grief and emerge unbowed?

In a bar on Rann, two shrouded strangers recount two blood-chilling narratives—one in which a Blackstar heavyweight demands access to a secret vault on planet Weirwimm, threatening its gruesome annihilation with Sun-Eaters, and the other about maverick Hal Jordan and his small cadre of GLs struggling to destroy those same Sun-Eaters. Learn more about both tales in ***The Green Lantern #4*** (by *Grant Morrison & Liam Sharp)*.

The Deathbringers know where Hawkman is—and they're coming to Earth to claim him in ***Hawkman #9*** (by *Robert Venditti & Bryan Hitch)*.

Implicated in a crime she didn't commit, Harley Quinn must prove her innocence by teaming up with the Caped Crusader himself in ***Harley Quinn #58*** (by *Sam Humphries & John Timms)*.

Harley's worst nightmare comes true in ***Old Lady Harley #5*** (by *Frank Tieri & Inaki Miranda)*: The Joker is reborn! But is there one more card to turn over? Is the killer behind that smile the man she loved, hated, loved, and lost... or something even more deadly and devastating? '

Get a deeper look into the inner workings of Sanctuary in ***Heroes in Crisis #6*** (by *Tom King & Mitch Gerads)*. When heroes visited the facility, they relived their trauma through virtual reality, contending with the events that brought them there in the hope of reaching a meaningful resolution. That is, until the trauma took over and escalated these personal events into a full-blown crisis! Find out what pushed one of the superheroes over the edge and how it broke the machine.

Hundreds of years after the world ended and human society was rebuilt from scratch, a self-interested smuggler is forced to traverse a new continent of danger and mystery to deliver a child messiah to High Level, a mythical city at the top of the world from which no one has ever returned, in ***High Level #1*** (by *Rob Sheridan, Barnaby Bagenda, & Romulo Fajardo Jr)*.

Things continue to get worse for Erzulie and her followers in the House of Dahomey in ***House of Whispers #6*** (by *Nalo Hopkinson & Domo Stanton)*. Even her warrior sister-self cannot keep off the pains and troubles that follow each of them like the plague. She fears it may be time to unleash another of her feared personae: Erzulie the Red-Eye, dark lady of sorrows.

Martian Manhunter decides to take matters into his own hands and negotiate a peace with Legion of Doom leader Lex Luthor in ***Justice League #17*** (by *Scott Snyder, Jim Cheung, & Mark Morales)*. Traveling to a distant moon, the two enemies face their intertwined pasts in a showdown for the fate of the Multiverse. Then the Legion of Doom returns as the history of the Legionnaires Club is revealed in ***Justice League #18*** (by *James Tynion IV & Pasqual Ferry)*.

Wonder Woman and the Justice League Dark are in a race against time in ***Justice League Dark #8*** (by *James Tynion IV & Alvaro Martinez)* as the Otherkind close in on the rest of the magical community. With the world's magic failing, the team needs to rally the magic wielders of Earth together. But can they face down Doctor Fate and his newly assembled Lords of Order?!

The Codex reveals a dangerous secret to the Odyssey team about the fate of the Ghost Sector in ***Justice League Odyssey #6*** (by *Dan Abnett & Carmine DiGiandomenico)*. However, with Green Lantern out of action and Darkseid hot on their trail, Cyborg, Azrael, and Starfire might have to rely on the very dark powers that they are trying to outrun in order to save the Multiverse!

Lucifer is silenced in ***Lucifer #5*** (by *Dan Watters, Sebastian Fiumara, & Max Fiumara)*. As all the Devil's bargains are repaid to him tenfold, the last of his senses are about to be taken from him. Meanwhile, a wastrel finds the gates to Hell outside the local pub, and what was once a man seeks revenge on a screaming skull.

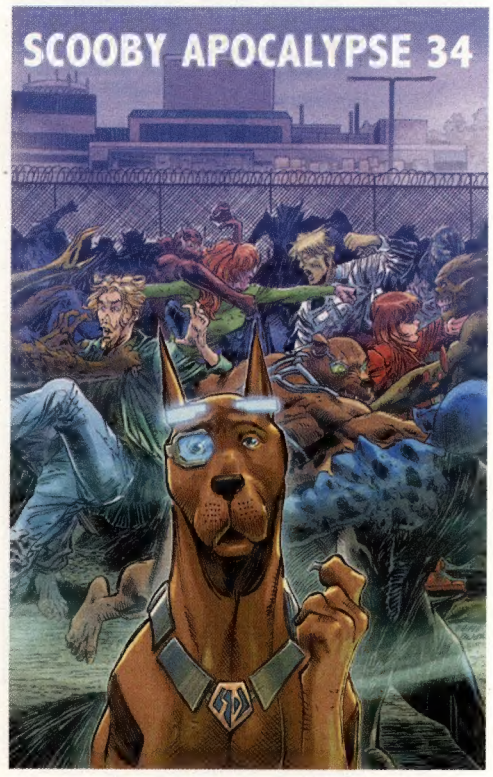
In ***Martian Manhunter #3*** (by *Steve Orlando & Riley Rossmo)* Detective Diane Meade learns the shocking truth: Her partner is not the real John Jones! With a gun to his head, J'onn J'onnz must explain his first horrifying night on Earth, and how he came to wear her partner's face... but even as they speak, Middleton's serial killer is back at his bloody work!

Princess Mera is teenage royalty and heir to the throne of Xebel, a colony ruled by the other not-so-lost land under the sea, Atlantis. Her father, his court, and the entire kingdom are expecting her to marry and introduce a new king. But Mera is destined to wear a different crown... When the Xebellian military plots to overthrow Atlantis and break free of its oppressive regime, Mera seizes the opportunity to take control of her own destiny by assassinating Arthur Curry, the long-lost prince and heir to the kingdom of Atlantis. But her mission gets sidetracked when Mera and Arthur unexpectedly fall in love in ***Mera: Tidebreaker TP,*** an original graphic novel by *Danielle Page & Stephen Byrne*. Will Arthur Curry be the king at Mera's side, or will he die under her blade as she attempts to free her people from persecution?

The intriguing mystery continues in ***Naomi #2*** (by *Brian Bendis, David F. Walker, & Jamal Campbell)* as Naomi searches to uncover the secrets of her own origin. What do her small town's oversized mechanic and the last time a superpowered person appeared in her hometown have to do with the day she was adopted?

Ric Grayson struggles to reconcile his past and present in ***Nightwing #57*** (by *Scott Lobdell & Travis Moore)*. His life was recently unburdened when the hero known as Nightwing was shot in the head. Now, Ric must come to terms with who he is, and what kind of hero he wants to be... if he wants to be one at all.

The investigation that Red Hood and Arsenal began together in Beijing ends in an abandoned prison in Mexico in ***Red Hood: Outlaw #31*** (by *Scott Lobdell & Pete Woods)*. With Roy Harper having passed, Jason Todd finds himself teamed with an ally he could not have imagined—Wingman!



The final war with Fred and his nanite-powered monster army begins in ***Scooby Apocalypse #34*** (by *Keith Giffen, JM DeMatteis, Patrick Olliffe, & Tom Palmer)*.

Billy Batson's world is turned upside down by a figure from the past in ***Shazam! #3*** (by *Geoff Johns & Dale Eaglesham*), while Mary, Freddy, and the rest of the Shazam family enter a realm of endless amusements, candy factories, and friends in the Funlands! But what's the catch?

The Silencer is once more the weapon of Leviathan in ***The Silencer #14*** (by *Dan Abnett, V. Ken Marion, & Sandu Florea*)—and Talia al Ghul has seen to it that she can never escape again. As her family grieves her loss as one of the many missing and presumed-dead civilians of the Action Land massacre, Honor Guest focuses solely on her new mission for Talia. But is Honor really ready to let go?

Caught in the middle of a Vega System civil war, a powerless Supergirl struggles to rescue as many slaves as she can from the brutal hands of the Citadel in ***Supergirl #27*** (by *Marc Andreykoi, Eduardo Pansica, & Julio Ferreira*). Meanwhile, the Omega Men reel from the discovery that their long-dead colleagues—Nimbus, Harpis, and Demonia—are mysteriously still alive! Kara, however, suspects there's more to their grand return than meets the eye...

A few months in space with his paternal grandfather Jor-El changed Jon Kent forever. With Jon now seeking help from his father in ***Superman #8*** (by *Brian Bendis, Ivan Reis, Joe Prado, & Brandon Peterson*), the Man of Steel must learn about the war his son and father fought together and must set right the wrongs his father may have unleashed on other worlds. See what changed Superboy in such radical ways as the Unity Saga continues.

The polar ice caps have nearly melted away, causing devastation to coastal cities. Erratic, deadly weather forces everyone inland, tearing families apart. Earth is facing its greatest crisis—and Superman and Batman are nowhere to be found. Jon Kent and Damian Wayne are opposite in every way except one—they are the sons of the World's Greatest Heroes! To uncover a global conspiracy, this unlikely dynamic duo will need to learn to trust each other and work together to save the Earth in ***Super Sons Book One: The Polarshield Project TP,*** the first original graphic novel in a three-part series by *Ridley Pearson & Ile Gonzalez*. But who is the mysterious Candace? And what secrets does she hold that could be the key to everything?

Every Teen Titan has a secret—and they all come spilling out in ***Teen Titans #27*** (by *Adam Galss & Bernard Chang*). As Djinn helps Robin recover from his injuries after a brutal showdown with Red Hood, she tells him all about her dark past, revealing some unsettling truths about herself. Meanwhile, Red Arrow helps Crush find a new sense of purpose, and Roundhouse reveals the tragic story of how he got his powers!

The Terrifics are ready to enter the final battle with the Dreadfuls, Doc Dread's revenge squad that has systematically wiped out dozens of Mr Terrifics from across the Multiverse, in ***The Terrifics #13*** (by *Jeff Lemire & Joe Bennett*). As the many Mr and Mrs Terrifics fight for their lives, the cavalry is on its way—but will Phantom Girl, Plastic Man, and the repowered Metamorpho reach the battle in time?

The Titans are trapped on the perilous Unearth in ***Titans #34*** (by *Dan Abnett & Bruno Redondo*), far from home and standing in the face of not one but two evil armies. Then things take a turn for the worse when the commander of the opposition turns out to be one of their own. The Titans will need to make some hard choices on the path to victory.

Murder Inc has gone to war with the United States—and the United States has lost in ***United States vs Murder Inc #6*** (by *Brian Bendis & Michael Avon Oeming*). The president is dead; the vice president has quit; there's chaos in the streets, fighting in Congress; farms are burning... but Valentine has a plan.

Skywatch intensifies its preparation for war in ***The Wild Storm #20*** (by *Warren Ellis & Jon Davis-Hunt*), increasing its attacks on the planet. For some of these conflict zones, Skywatch's greatest threat is not IO or conventional forces, but the people who escaped from its own experimentation camps—and the four people in London whom it knows little about, but who are preparing to take steps to alter the balance of the world...

Exiled from their home planet, alien heroes Zan and Jayna must navigate life as teens on Earth at South Metropolis High School, where they're even bigger outsiders than the typical awkward young adult, in ***Wonder Twins #1*** (by *Mark Russell & Stephen Byrne*). Under the watchful eye of Superman, the brother and sister pull monitor duty at the Hall of Justice as interns, while also trying to overcome the pitfalls of Zan's brash confidence and Jayna's shy but streetwise persona. If you think you know the Wonder Twins, think again!

There's a god in Veronica Cale's basement... and it's not happy! As the Olympian pantheon begins to be reborn around the globe, each one could become a deadly weapon in the right hands. Unfortunately for Wonder Woman, the literal god of grudges, grievances, and gripes is in the clutches of her most virulent foe in ***Wonder Woman #64*** (by *G. Willow Wilson & Jesus Merino*).

YOUNG JUSTICE 2

Robin (Tim Drake), Wonder Girl, Teen Lantern, and Jinny Hex join forces to help Amethyst free Gemworld from those who control it in ***Young Justice #2*** (by *Brian Bendis, Patrick Gleason, & Emanuela Lupacchino*). In another section of the strange dimension, Connor Kent and Impulse find themselves taken captive—but if this is really Superboy, why isn't he putting up a fight with his friend and former teammate against the bad guys?

DC collected editions (advance solicited for March and April release) include:

- ***Absolute Batman: Arkham Asylum 30th Anniversary Edition HC,*** an oversized slipcased version of the *Grant Morrison–Dave McKean* tale featuring new cover art by McKean.
- ***Absolute Dark Knight HC,*** a new edition of the oversized, slipcased edition of *Frank Miller's* first two ***Dark Knight*** series.
- ***Absolute Daytripper HC,*** collecting the 10-issue limited series.
- ***The Authority by Ed Brubaker & Dustin Nguyen TP,*** collecting ***The Authority: Revolution #s 1–12.***
- ***Batman and Harley Quinn TP,*** collecting 12 digital chapters in print for the first time.

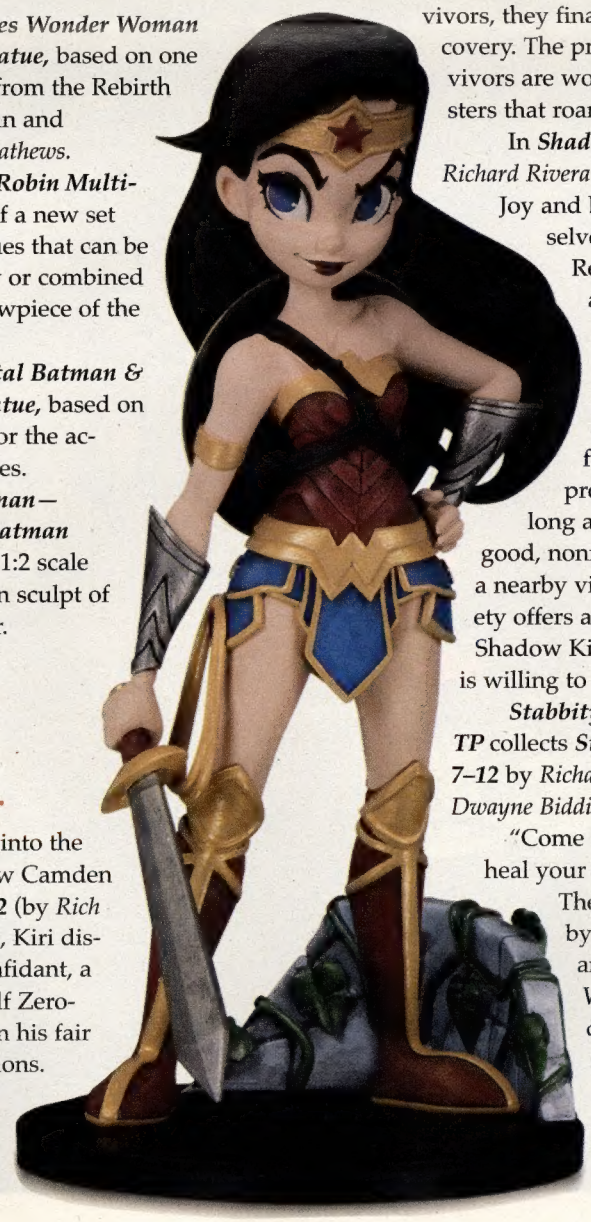
•***Batman Arkham: Ra's al Ghul TP,*** collecting 232 pages of Ra's al Ghul tales.
•***Batman Volume 9: The Tyrant Wing TP,*** collecting ***Batman #s 58–63.***

the BRAVE and the BOLD
ALL NEW! 60¢
NO. 191 OCT.
STARRING
BATMAN AND THE Joker
YOU MURDERED THE PENGUIN AND I'LL SEE YOU HANG FOR IT!
WRONG, BAT-BREATH! I'M AS INNOCENT AS A NEW-BORN BABE!
BANG!

•***Batman: The Brave and the Bold Bronze Age Omnibus Volume 3 HC,*** collecting ***The Brave and the Bold #s 157–200.***
•***Batman vs Deathstroke HC,*** collecting ***Deathstroke #s 30–35.***
•***Batman: The Long Halloween DC Modern Classic HC,*** a new slipcased edition of the 13-issue series.
•***Catwoman by Jim Balent Book Two TP,*** collecting ***Catwoman #s 14–24, 0,*** and more.
•***Dark Nights: Metal—Dark Knights Rising TP,*** collecting the seven evil Batmen one-shots and ***The Wild Hunt #1.***
•***DC Meets Looney Tunes Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***Catwoman/Sylvester and Tweety Special #1, Harley Quinn/Gossamer Special #1, The Joker/Daffy Duck Special #1,*** and ***Lex Luthor/Porky Pig Special #1.***
•***Detective Comics: 80 Years of Batman Deluxe Edition HC,*** featuring classic Batman tales from ***Detective's*** 80-year run, as well as tales featuring Slam Bradley, Air Wave, the Boy Commandos, the Martian Manhunter, and the 1970s Manhunter. The volume also includes the original layouts for ***Detective #200*** and essays on Batman from *Cory Doctorow, Neil Gaiman, Glen David Gold, Dennis O'Neil,* former San Diego Police Chief *Shelley Zimmerman,* and pulp historian *Anthony Tollin.*
•***The Flash Volume 9: Reckoning of the Forces TP,*** collecting ***The Flash #s 52–57.***
•***The Flash: The Silver Age Volume 4 TP,*** collecting ***The Flash #s 148–163.***
•***Harley Quinn Volume 2: Harley Destroys the Universe TP,*** collecting ***Harley Quinn #s 50–54.***
•***JLA: New World Order Essential Edition TP,*** a new edition of *Grant Morrison's* ***JLA #s 1–9*** and more.
•***The Joker: The Bronze Age Omnibus HC,*** collecting more than 800 pages of classic Joker tales from ***Batman, Detective, Wonder Woman, The Joker,*** and more.
•***Justice League Dark Volume 1: The Last Age of Magic TP,*** collecting ***Justice League Dark #s 1–3 & 5–6.***
•***Justice League of America: The Bronze Age Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ***Justice League of America #s 77–95.***
•***The New Teen Titans Volume 10 TP,*** collecting ***New Titans #s 10–15 & Annual #1.***
•***Promethea: The 20th Anniversary Deluxe Edition Book One HC,*** collecting ***Promethea #s 1–12*** plus *Alan Moore's* complete script for *#3.*
•***The Sandman Volume 6: Fables and Reflections 30th Anniversary Edition TP,*** collecting ***Sandman #s 29–31, 38–50, Special #1,*** and more, along with a new cover by *Dave McKean.*
•***The Wild Storm Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***The Wild Storm #s 13–18.***

Coming in July from DC Collectibles

•***Deluxe Action Figure Base Two-Pack,*** complete with a three-point arm, a spring-loaded grip, and peg holes, all designed for displaying unpackaged action figures.
•***Batman: Black & White Mini PVC Figure Seven-Pack Box Set one,*** featuring 3.75" tall PVC versions of the statues based on the art of *Amanda Conner, Darwyn Cooke, Jason Fabok, Patrick Gleason, Frank Quitely, Dick Sprang,* and *Jim Lee's* Nightwing.
•***DC Artist's Alley Wonder Woman Hawkgirl, Supergirl, and Batgirl by Chrissie Zullo Vinyl Figures,*** each sold separately in both standard color version and limited black-and-white versions.
•***Batman: Black & White Batman by Kenneth Rocafort Statue,*** sculpted by *Paul Harding.*
•***DC Designer Series Wonder Woman by Jenny Frison Statue,*** based on one of Frison's covers from the Rebirth ***Wonder Woman*** run and sculpted by *Jack Mathews.*
•***Batman Family: Robin Multi-Part Statue,*** part of a new set featuring five statues that can be posed individually or combined into a massive showpiece of the Bat-Family.
•***Dark Nights: Metal Batman & Darkseid Baby Statue,*** based on *Greg Capullo's* art for the acclaimed ***Metal*** series.
•***DC Gallery: Batman—Arkham Asylum Batman Cowl,*** an 8.5"- tall 1:2 scale bust-style polyresin sculpt of Batman's headgear.



Coming Comics—Scout in February

Delving deeper into the underworld of New Camden in ***Cyber Spectre #2*** (by *Rich Emms & Ale Garza),* Kiri discovers that her confidant, a man calling himself Zero-One, has more than his fair share of inner demons. He introduces her to Operation Dawn, a team of battled-scarred

degenerates who live for danger after being "exposed" by the Corporation. (Also, look for a second- printing ***Cyber Spectre #1*** in February as well.)

Peter Ricq's ***Once Our Land Book Two #1,*** the sequel to Scout's post-apocalyptic breakout hit, is set in 1830s Germany where creatures from another world have conquered our land. Six years have passed since Ingrid and Fritz ventured out of their hometown.

After their long search for other survivors, they finally make their discovery. The problem is, the survivors are worse than the monsters that roam the land...

In ***Shadowplay #2*** (by *Richard Rivera & Clara Meath),* Joy and Bard find themselves in the Shadow Realm with no plan and zero allies. Their prospects change quickly when they encounter a powerful creature that can provide help... as long as they stay on his good, nonmurderous side. In a nearby village a secret society offers aid against the Shadow King as long the duo is willing to work with them.

Stabbity Bunny Volume 2 TP collects ***Stabbity Bunny #s 7–12*** by *Richard Rivera & Dwayne Biddix.*

"Come to me, and I will heal your broken heart." These words, spoken by a sweet-voiced angel, lead Wulfborne into a dark and creature-filled underworld in *Brian Middleton's* ***Wulfborne #1.*** As he battles his way through minotaurs, fish creatures, and other strange monsters, we learn that Wulfborne has lost the love of his life, Luna. He is now torn between dealing with the angel who has whispered that she will heal his broken heart and fulfilling a promise that he made to Luna. Wulfborne the Adventurer travels the Underworld in an attempt to heal his broken heart! Monstrous adversaries block his way! Strange travelers warn him back! But the bitter swordsman is determined to see this through... no matter the cost!

Coming Comics—Valiant in February

When a walking weapon of war like Bloodshot goes completely missing, you need the toughest of the tough to do the dirty work of bringing him back. Luckily, Project Rising Spirit has just such a team at its disposal—a black budget strike force with capabilities no ordinary soldier could ever conceive of. Enter the HARD Corps in ***Bloodshot Rising Spirit #4*** (by *Kevin Grevioux & Harvey Tolibao).*

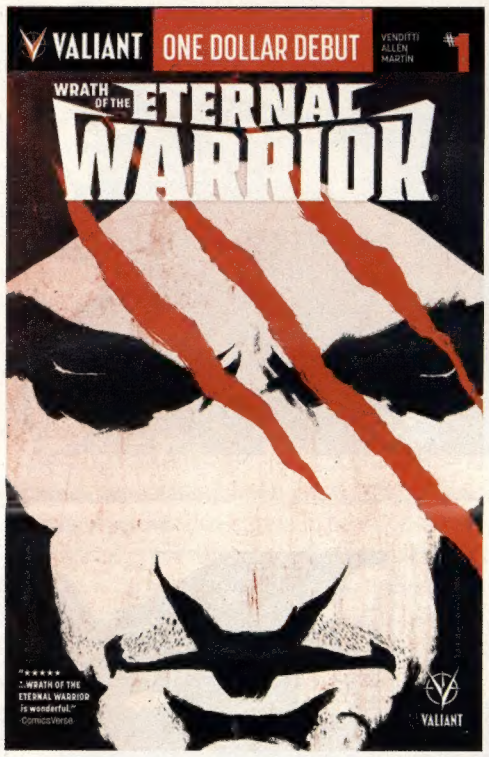
An ancient evil returns in ***The Forgotten Queen #1*** (by *Tini Howard & Amilcar Pinna).* Long ago, the mighty generals of the Mongol Empire rode from Siberia to Carpathia and conquered all who stood in their way. Legends tell of a witch who walked with them, who could infect the hearts of any warriors in around her with an unquenchable thirst for battle and bloodshed... a War-Monger. And now she is walking again...

Beyond the margins of human reason lies a realm known as the Deadside, where the souls of the dearly departed linger—and where demons wait for us in the dark. For countless ages, Earth's chosen protectors have guarded the veil between both worlds—but there are other doors to the Deadside, through which gruesome terrors from galaxies untold can trespass... With the planet's freedom at stake, can the reigning Geomancer and her steadfast Eternal Warrior stand together against an invasion unlike any

they've ever witnessed? Find out in ***Incursion #1*** (by *Andy Diggle, Alex Paknadel, & Doug Braithwaite).*

Fleeing from more than just the law, Livewire's about to find out whether she has the strength to survive on her own in a world that hates and fears her, with only her memories of better days to rely on... but if she's not careful, even those can be snatched away by the mercenary hunting her down in ***Livewire #3*** (by *Vita Ayala, Raul Allen, & Patricia Martin).*

The intergalactic bounty hunters once bested by Aric of Dacia have followed him to Earth to reclaim their victor— by any means necessary! But X-O Manowar doesn't stand alone: From out of nowhere, another armor-clad challenger has jumped into the fray in ***X-O Manowar #24*** (by *Matt Kindt & Tomas Giorello).* Who is this mysterious warrior, and what business does she have with Aric?



For readers who want to learn some of the backstory leading into ***Incursion #1,*** Valiant is offering ***One Dollar Debut: Wrath of the Eternal Warrior #1.***

Valiant collected editions include:

- ***Faith: Dreamside TP,*** collecting ***Faith: Dreamside #s 1–4.***
- ***Ninja-K Volume 3: Fallout TP,*** collecting ***Ninja-K #s 10–14.***

Coming Comics— Boom in February

It's spring break in Elmore. Let the vacations begin! Tobias is planning an epic house party; Hot Dog Guy is looking for love; the Wattersons turn their house into a resort, and more in ***Amazing World of Gumball: Spring Break Smash #1.***

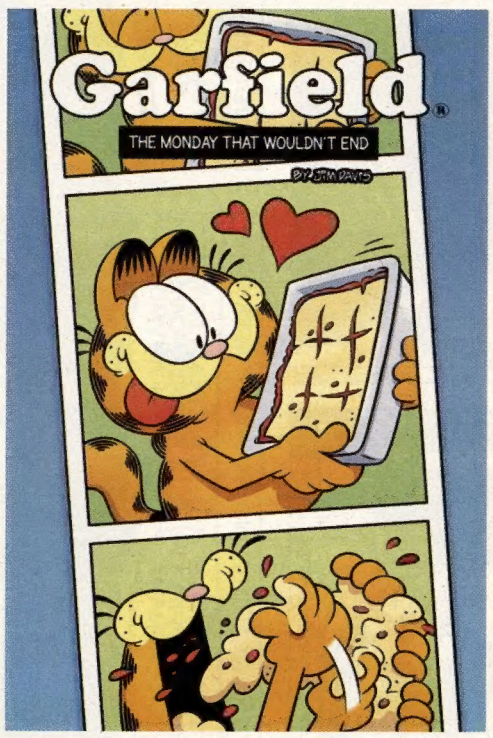
Charlie is done with team sports. Nope. Not happening. Never again. But Liv and the rest of the Georgia O'Keeffe College of Arts and Subtle Dramatics basketball team are determined to get Charlie to join them in ***The Avant-Guards #2*** (by *Carly Usdin & Noah Hayes),* and they've cooked up a ruse to woo her! For basketball. Nothing else.

The reimagining of *Joss Whedon's* groundbreaking series continues in ***Buffy the Vampire Slayer #2*** (by *Jordie Bellaire & Dan Mora)* as Drusilla, the self-proclaimed Mistress, and her pet, Spike, make their debut with their sights set on Buffy! Meanwhile, Giles is determined to teach Buffy about her destiny, responsibility, blah blah... can someone tell him to chill?

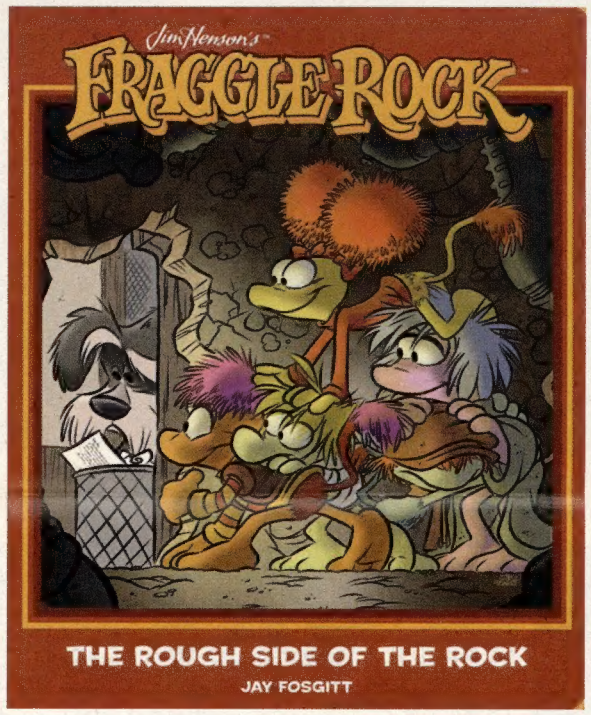
Hell breaks loose in the neighborhood in ***Empty Man #4*** (by *Cullen Bunn & Jesus Hervas),* and the Kerry family must flee to escape the deadly effects of the Empty Man virus.

The truth about Mal and Zoe's past during the Unification War has been exposed, and now the Unificators make their final move against them in ***Firefly #4*** (by *Greg Pak & Dan McDaid)*! New enemies arise; heroes fall, and the crew of ***Serenity*** will pay the price.

It's Monday, that most dreaded day— and of course, everything is going wrong, wrong, wrong for Garfield in ***Garfield: The Monday That Wouldn't End,*** an original graphic novel by *Scott Nickel, Mark Evanier, Sarah Oleksyk, & Antonio Alfaro.* But this is no ordinary Monday, and the frazzled feline finds himself stuck in a time loop, reliving the agony over and over and over. Can Garfield find a way to end this rotten day, or will he be stuck forever?



Olive and her adopted siblings, Charlotte and Darwin, are spending the summer with their estranged grandma at her creepy hotel, and it's all work and no play. They're stuck inside doing boring chores until they stumble upon an incredible secret in ***Hotel Dare*** (an original graphic novel by *Terry Blas & Claudia Aguirre):* Behind each door of the hotel lies a portal to a strange and mysterious place. The simple turn of a knob transports them to a distant magical world filled with space pirates. Behind the next door are bearded wizards. Down the hall is a doorway to a cotton-candied kingdom. But once the doors are open, worlds start colliding, and only one family can save them before the hotel tears itself apart.



It's the annual "Splish-Splash Friend Bash" at Fraggle Pond, and all of Fraggle Rock is invited in ***Jim Henson's Fraggle Rock: The Rough Side of the Rock HC.*** But when a few bullies decide to crash the party, Gobo, Boober, and the other Fraggles will have to look out for one another and come up with a plan to help everyone get along.

Since its original release in 1968, the ***Planet of the Apes*** franchise has shocked and captivated authors, artists, filmmakers, and fans across the world with its incredible effects and brilliant narrative. Now, return to the worlds of ***Planet of the Apes,*** both old and new, realized by a collection of classic and modern artists in ***The Planet of the Apes Artist Tribute HC,*** featuring work by *Alex Ross, Paolo Rivera, Michael Allred, Gabriel Hardman, Joe Quinones,* and many more.

When Peridot and Lapis discover Camp Pining Play fanfiction, they fall in love with Lars' secret story and decide to put on a live performance for Beach City in ***Steven Universe: Camp Pining Play,*** an original graphic novel by *Nicole Mannino & Lisa Sterle.* With Steven, Connie, and the Crystal Gems, Peridot and Lapis become true thespians and work together to find a solution when parts of the story remind Lapis of her time with Jasper and jeopardize the play's production.

Boom! collected editions include:

- ***Adventure Time Volume 17 TP,*** collecting ***Adventure Time #s 74, 75,*** and more.
- ***Backstagers Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***The Backstagers Valentines Intermission*** and ***The Backstagers Halloween Intermission.***
- ***Mech Cadet Yu Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Mech Cadet Yu #s 9–12.***
- ***Saban's Go Go Power Rangers Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Go Go Power Rangers #s 9–12.***
- ***Sons of Anarchy Legacy Edition Book Two TP,*** collecting ***Sons of Anarchy (2014) #s 7 & 15–25.***
- ***The Thrilling Adventure Hour: Martian Manhunt TP,*** collecting ***The Thrilling Adventure Hour Presents: Sparks Nevada, Marshal on Mars #s 0–4.***
- ***WWE: NXT Takeover TP,*** collecting the four-issue series.

Coming Comics— Archie in February

Archie Andrews is MIA and presumed dead in ***Archie 1941 #5*** (by *Mark Waid, Brian Augustyn, Peter Krause, Kelly Fitzpatrick, & Jack Morelli).* His friends and family— devastated! Don't miss out on the conclusion of this miniseries offering a realistic look at life in the war years. (And if you enjoy *Mark Waid's* work here, check out the ***Archie: Varsity Edition Volume 1 HC,*** a premium hardcover collection of *Mark Waid's* ***Archie #s 1–12.)***

Enjoy a collection of quarterly classic-style stories sure to be music to your ears beginning with ***Archie and Friends: Music Jam #1.*** Follow Archie from the record store to the recording studio to the music awards in this collection of stories of musical mishaps and mirthful melodies!

Jughead's enigmatic and demented werewolf cousin Bingo Wilkins returns in ***Jughead: The Hunger #12*** (by *Frank Tieri, Joe Eisma, Matt Herms, & Jack Morelli).* But where has he been? And what does his return mean for good ol' Jug?

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SPIDER-MAN

BY STAN LE & ALEX SAVIUK

J. JONAH JAMESON IS BACK IN NEW YORK...
HERE'S THE GUY WHO'S GONNA HELP ME BRING SPIDER-MAN TO JUSTICE AT LAST!
ROBBIE, MEET LUKE CAGE, A.K.A. THE SUPERHERO FOR HIRE!
YOU PEOPLE NEED TO FIX YOUR DOORS TO OPEN EASIER!
STAN LEE/ALEX SAVIUK 11-12
WHICH OF YOU TWO IS J. JONAH JAMESON?
HE'S GUILTY AS CHARGED, MR. CAGE!
STAN LEE/ALEX SAVIUK 11-13
YOUR MESSAGE MENTIONED SPIDER-MAN...
HE PRETENDS TO BE A HERO- BUT THAT'S JUST A FRONT FOR HIS SUPERVILLAIN ACTIVITIES!
YOU AND I ARE GOING TO EXPOSE HIM-
-AND PUT HIM BEHIND BARS WHERE HE BELONGS!
NOW, HERE'S MY PLAN: FIRST, YOU CATCH THE WALL-CRAWLER AND DRAG HIM INTO-
STAN LEE/ALEX SAVIUK 11-14
NO.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHAT PART OF "N-O" DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
I WANT NO PART OF YOUR HALF-BAKED SCHEME!
CAGE-ARE YOU SAYING YOU WON'T WORK FOR ME?
I THINK HE MADE HIMSELF PRETTY CLEAR, JONAH!
I DON'T DO THE "HERO FOR HIRE" BIT ANYMORE.
STAN LEE ALEX SAVIUK 11-15
PROVE TO ME SPIDER-MAN'S A CROOK, AND I'LL HAUL HIM IN FOR FREE!
BUT NOBODY BUYS OR RENTS LUKE CAGE!
NOW, IF YOU'LL STAND ASIDE...
NO! YOU MUST HELP ME CAPTURE THAT WEB-SLINGING MENACE!
STAN LEE/ALEX SAVIUK 11-16
YOU'RE NOT LEAVING HERE TILL YOU LISTEN TO REASON!
I GUESS HE FIGURED HE'D LISTENED ENOUGH.
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